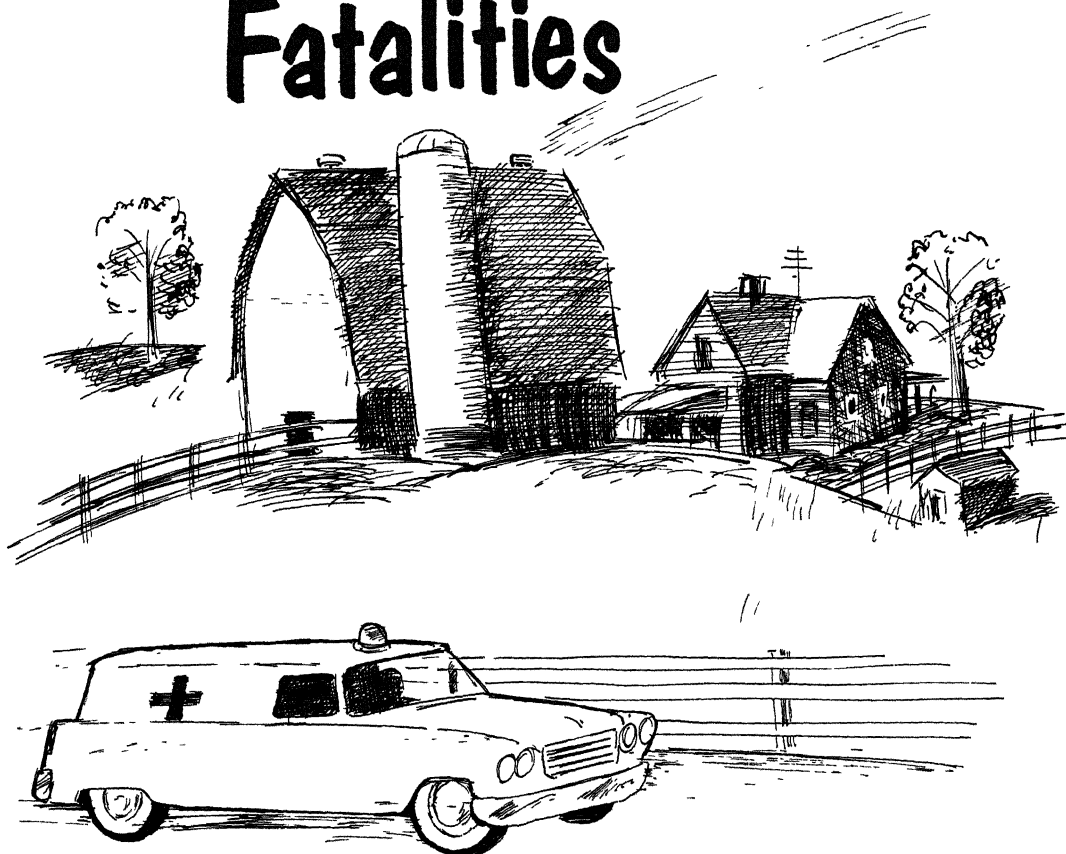


LET'S CURB Farm Fatalities



Agricultural Extension Service
The Ohio State University
Bulletin 365

Let's Curb

Farm Fatalities

By

R. H. Baker and W. E. Stuckey*

It Was a Fact in 1962

- * Each week six Ohio farm folks died in accidents.
- * Seventy-five percent of the farm folks killed in accidents were men and boys.
- * Seventy serious non-fatal accidents occurred to farm people in Ohio for every fatal accident.
- * Nineteen percent of the accidental deaths resulted from falls, and 32 percent from misuse of motor vehicles.
- * Fifty-three percent of the accidental deaths to farm people in Ohio occurred while the persons were off the farm.

Do You Agree?

- * We are making progress, but the accident situation is one of our greatest social problems.
- * Some people are not concerned enough about this problem, and that each of us has a moral obligation to be our brother's keeper.
- * Educational programs are effective in reducing accidents.
- * Farm groups, including youth, should continue to place much emphasis on safety in their programs.
- * As individuals, we should study accident causes, then plan with our families to prevent accidents.

If you agree, study the following information carefully, then determine what you can do to help curb farm fatalities.

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Total Number of Fatal Accidents To Ohio Farm People

Type of Accident Causing Death	PERSONS KILLED		1946-62 Average
	1962	1961	
Fall	61	80	104
Motor Vehicle	103	118	127
Tractor or Farm Machinery	55	35	39
Farm Animal	4	2	8
Fire or Burn	30	30	35
Train	8	10	18
Drowning	10	24	21
Smother or Strangulation	12	12	15
Firearm	6	10	10
Others	35	30	31
Total	324	351	408



Provide life-saving equipment
at your farm pond.

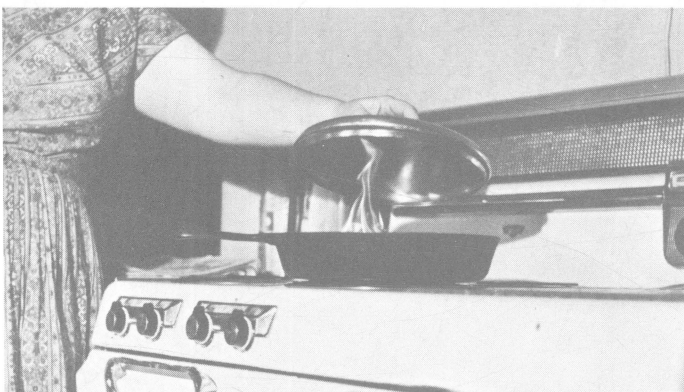
During 1962 there were 21 percent fewer accidental farm deaths than during the average of the last 17 years. Deaths resulting from falls and motor vehicles accounted for 51 percent of the deaths. We should emphasize these accidents in our programs. Farm machinery, fire hazards, and water safety should also receive attention. As individuals, we should "search out" accident hazards and eliminate them—Hazards + People = Accidents. As groups, we could emphasize this situation through displays, discussions, organized inspections, and by working with committees concerned with these problems.

Number of Fatal Accidents To Ohio Farm People Off Farm

Type of Accident Causing Death	PERSONS KILLED		1946-62 Average
	1962 Male	Female	
Pedestrian Struck by Motor Vehicle	11	2	34
Motor Vehicle	64	27	102
Pedestrian Struck by Train	0	1	4
Drowning	6	0	15
Fall on Same Level	3	0	3
Tractor on Highway	7	0	3
Others	5	1	11
Total	96	31	172

Fifty-three percent of the Ohio farm people killed by accidents were away from their farm at the time.

Seventy-two percent of the off-farm deaths resulted from motor vehicle accidents. Another 10 percent occurred when an automobile, truck, bus, or motorcycle struck a person who was crossing or walking along a road. Pedestrians should always walk on the left side of the road facing traffic and, at night, wear something light-colored and carry a light. Many motor vehicle accidents occur *close to home*. We become so familiar with our surroundings that we forget the rules of safety on the road.



If grease in skillet catches
fire, smother it with a lid.

Number of Fatal Accidents To Ohio Farm People In The Home

Type of Accident Causing Death	PERSONS KILLED 1962		1946-62 Average
	Male	Female	
Fall	27	20	85
Fire	15	13	31
Smother or Strangulation	7	3	14
Poison	2	1	5
Firearm	3	1	4
Others	5	3	10
Total	59	41	149



Say "No" when children ask for

Must we keep falling down? In 1962, 47 percent of the accidental deaths in Ohio farm homes resulted from falls; 83 percent of which occurred on the same level. Most falls are due to slipping on rugs or floors, tripping over obstacles, falling out of bed, or stumbling on the sidewalk. Deaths from fires in the home continue to be a major problem.

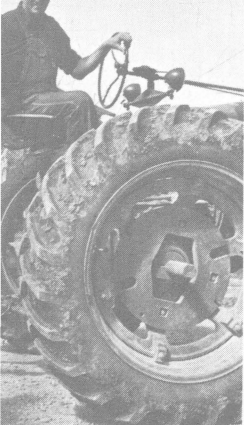


Use a step stool or ladder for reaching high places.

Number of Fatal Accidents To Ohio Farm People On Farm, Outside The Home

Type of Accident Causing Death	PERSONS KILLED 1962		1946-62 Average
	Male	Female	
Tractor or Farm Machinery	45	3	36
Fall	10	1	13
Struck by Falling Object	10	1	6
Firearm	1	1	4
Farm Animal	4	0	7
Fire or Burn	1	1	3
Drowning	2	1	6
Lightning or Electric Shock	3	0	3
Others	11	2	9
Total	87	10	87

In 1962 over 50 percent of the fatal accidents on the misuse of the farm tractor or farm machinery. Many of the accidents were overturns. However, some victims were run over, others were caught in unshielded power-take-off shafts.



ask for a ride.

Total Number of Fatal Accidents To Ohio Farm People—Time and Place

Month	PERSONS KILLED 1962				1946-62 Average
	Farm	Home	Off-Farm	Total	
January	4	10	6	20	29
February	4	10	11	25	29
March	4	8	12	24	28
April	10	5	7	22	30
May	11	7	10	28	36
June	12	8	13	33	37
July	4	4	14	22	40
August	9	10	19	38	40
September	9	4	6	19	36
October	15	9	12	36	37
November	11	5	9	25	33
December	4	20	8	32	33
Total	97	100	127	324	408

During the summer and early fall, the accidental death rate has been 42 percent higher than during the remainder of the year.

The seasonal distribution of fatal accidents on the farm outside the home follows the pattern one might expect. During the planting, cultivating, and harvesting seasons, when more work is being done, when there is pressure to get work done on time, and when operators work longer hours and are more fatigued, the number of accidents increase.

The 17-year average shows that fatal accidents that occurred while off the farms were most frequent during summer and fall months.

Wipe up spilled liquids immediately.



on the farm resulted from the
ny of the deaths resulted from
others fell from tractors, and
shafts.



Keep pot and skillet handles turned back.

Total Number of Fatal Accidents To Ohio Farm People—Age, Sex, Place

Age	Farm		1962 Home		Off-Farm		Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
0- 4	6	5	11	9	3	4	38
5-14	5	0	3	2	19	4	33
15-24	12	0	3	4	23	5	47
25-44	13	2	0	5	7	4	31
45-64	16	2	7	7	19	9	60
65 and over	35	1	35	14	25	5	115
Total	87	10	59	41	96	31	324

1946-62 Average							
0- 4	5	3	17	12	7	5	49
5-14	9	1	6	3	20	7	46
15-24	8	0	2	2	29	7	48
25-44	12	1	2	4	13	8	40
45-64	18	2	5	5	23	10	63
65 and over	27	1	40	51	34	9	162
Total	79	8	72	77	126	46	408



In 1962 accidental deaths to persons between ages 25 and 44 were 22 percent fewer than the 17-year average 1946-62. It should also be noted that there has been less reduction in accidental deaths to those in their late teens and early 20's and to the 45 to 64 age group.

Seventy-five percent of the accidental death victims were men and boys.

Children should know and obey the rules of the road.



Disconnect spark plug wire
before overturning mower to
service.

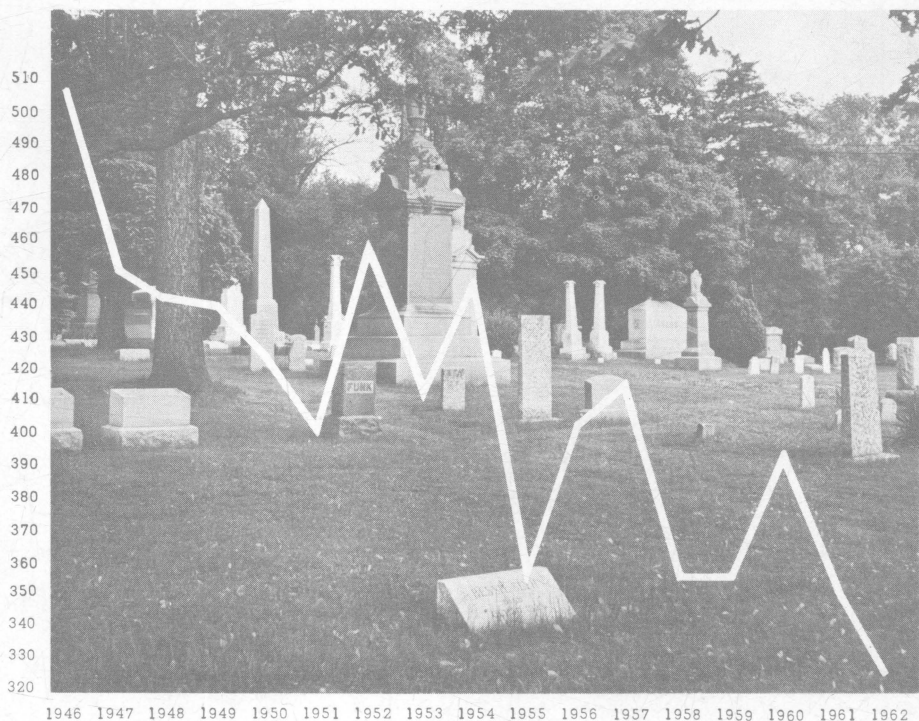
Average Number of Fatal Accidents To Ohio Farm People By Age and Sex 1946 - 1962

Type	Oldsters 65 Yrs. & Over		5-64 Yrs.		Youngsters Under 5 Yrs.	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Fall	41	49	9	3	1	1
Motor Vehicle	17	6	45	23	3	2
Struck by Auto	10	2	15	4	4	3
Tractor and Machinery	10	0	23	2	2	1
Farm Animal	3	0	3	1	0	0
Train	3	0	6	2	1	0
Fire	8	4	7	8	5	4
Drowning	1	0	13	3	3	2
Smother	1	0	2	0	7	5
Lightning	0	0	3	0	0	0
Struck by Object	2	0	4	0	0	0
Poison	1	0	2	1	1	1
Firearm	1	0	7	1	0	0
Others	4	0	7	2	2	1
Total	102	61	146	50	29	20

It is significant that 40 percent of the accidental deaths to farm people in Ohio occur to oldsters 65 years of age and older, while only 9.8 percent of our farm population in Ohio are in this age group. Those who are over 65 years of age have seven times as many chances of having a fatal accident as do younger adults.

Falls are the villains for persons over 65 years of age. Fires, drownings, being run over by autos and smotherings account for two-thirds of the deaths to children under five years of age. What can we do to reduce accidents to our babies and oldsters?

Total Number of Fatal Accidents To Ohio Farm People 1946-62



We have our "ups and downs" but, generally speaking, progress is being made.

What will the situation be in 1970? Only the farm people of Ohio can answer this question. This unnecessary loss of life, suffering, and financial waste can be reduced if we recognize this problem and make plans to stay alive. Otherwise, we shall continue to count our dead.

Acknowledgments: This information was secured from photostatic copies of death certificates furnished by the Division of Vital Statistics, Ohio Department of Health; the Research Committee, Ohio Farm and Home Safety Committee Inc. cooperating.

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